

Indianapolis Sister Cities International



Indianapolis Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor
INTERNATIONAL
& CULTURAL AFFAIRS

2012 Annual Report

indianapolis
UNITED.



COMING
>TOGETHER,<
CELEBRATING
OUR
DIFFERENT
CULTURES



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1st Place: **Sydney Patton** ▶
Franklin Central High School



“ I am currently a senior at Franklin Central High School. I am looking forward to attending Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana to study Graphic Design. I think it is especially important for Indianapolis to be a global city because being open to other cultures besides our own broadens our horizons and encourages us to learn about the traditions and practices of others. ”

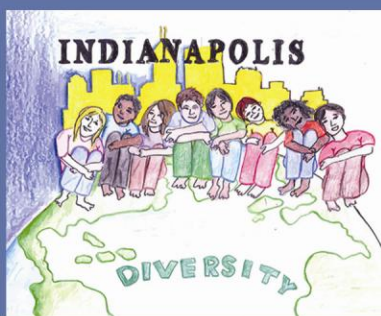
Cover:

As part of our inaugural Sister Cities Fest, we held a poster contest open to all Marion County K-12 schools. The theme of the poster contest was "Indianapolis, a Global City."

▼ 2nd Place: Yuzuki Katsuma
The Orchard School



▼ 3rd Place: Zena Sellars
Broad Ripple Magnet High School



A Global Indianapolis



Greetings,

I'm excited by the results to date and the future opportunities of our growing Sister Cities initiative. These partnerships are a key initiative in our international growth strategy, as they provide strong cultural, educational and economic connections with important parts of the world.

In today's world economy, it is more crucial than ever for Indianapolis to be globally recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. Moreover, we must be welcoming and inclusive to all who make Indianapolis their home.

Through our Sister Cities initiatives, we participate in exchanges that send individuals on life-changing travels, whether they are youth learning about the world in a real life classroom, or adults learning and sharing best practices in their vocations. We are also offering more cultural opportunities here in Indianapolis, for our residents and our visitors to enjoy.

I was pleased to lead delegations to four of our Sister Cities this past year. The focus of our meetings was investment, trade and diplomatic relations. I'm pleased to report that we have seen several positive outcomes already and anticipate more will develop in the future.

Indianapolis is a global city. We welcome the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory A. Ballard". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gregory A. Ballard
Mayor, City of Indianapolis



8

Sister Cities

30

Events & Programs

64

Community Partners

340

Active Volunteers



Leadership Team

Partnership Committees

Taipei, Taiwan: Est. 1978

Dr. Chao-Hung Lee, Chair

Cologne, Germany: Est. 1988

Martin Baier, Chair

Monza, Italy: Est. 1994

Paola Santini, Chair

Piran, Slovenia: Est. 2001

Josef Laposa, Chair

Hangzhou, China: Est. 2008

Sherry Dong, Chair

Campinas, Brazil: Est. 2009

Michael Horrocks, Chair

Northamptonshire County, UK:
Est. 2009

Jeff Kitchen, Chair

Hyderabad, India: Est. 2010

Raju Chinthala, Chair

Program Committees

Education: **Susan Tomlinson, Chair**

Events: **Aaron Goetz, Chair**



Greetings,

We were pleased with our accomplishments in 2012. Most notably, this year we hosted the inaugural Sister Cities Fest. Thanks to our many sponsors, we were able to provide this event free to the public, with over 4,000 in attendance. We accomplished 30 initiatives in our primary areas of focus: culture, education, municipal relationships, and supporting economic development.

Indianapolis Sister Cities is a member of Sister Cities International (SCI), headquartered in Washington, D.C. It is a nonprofit citizen diplomacy network inspired by President Eisenhower founded in 1956. Today, SCI strengthens partnerships between the U.S. and international communities in over 2,500 communities in 135 countries.

We invite you to get involved in this exciting global and cultural initiative!

Jane Gehlhausen
Director, International & Cultural Affairs
City of Indianapolis

4,100

Attendees

236

Volunteers

65

Entertainers

8

Sister Cities

6

Int'l Sports

43

Exhibitors & Merchants

24

Sponsors

Sister Cities Fest

September 15

The 2012 Sister Cities Fest raised the profile of Indy as a welcoming and global city. Fest highlights included an International marketplace, world cuisine, a Kids' Karnival, and a World Sports Park where attendees tried cricket, rugby and other international sports. The World Stage featured an eclectic mix of entertainment, including musical headliner Delhi 2 Dublin from Vancouver, Canada.



Mayor Ballard with the Sister Cities leadership team



Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard's Office of International and Cultural Affairs hosted the 1st annual Indianapolis Sister Cities Festival to promote a global Indianapolis.

The ISO Goes Global: The Music of Indy's Sister Cities

July 13-14

MARSH.
SYMPHONY
ON THE PRAIRIE
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra



It was an Indiana summer at its finest!

On a beautiful summer evening, ISO Assistant Conductor David Glover took patrons on a world tour of celebrated classical works representing Indianapolis' sister cities in Germany, Italy, and China, among others. Guest violinist Stefan Jackiw paid homage to Cologne, Germany with Bruch's glorious "Scottish Fantasy." Local Chinese singer, Huang Li performed Jasmine Flower, a traditional Chinese folk song.

The Indianapolis Sister Cities partnered with the Symphony by creating a Sister Cities village. Patrons had the opportunity to visit booths to learn about each Sister City, including playing traditional games. Timing was perfect and visiting Taiwanese student Ambassadors were able join in the festivities.

"What an honor it was to work with the City of Indianapolis to showcase the international relationships created and strengthened by the Sister Cities initiative! Music plays such a natural role in bringing people together to celebrate, to learn from each other and to honor the diverse heritage of a community. It is exciting to see Indianapolis expanding its identity as a global city. By showcasing the diverse cultural and musical traditions of our international citizens we discover our common humanity and expand the way we think about life in Indianapolis."

— Beth Perdue Outland

Vice President, Community Engagement and Strategic Innovation
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra



Enhancing Indy's Cultural Landscape

Showcasing Our Sister City Cultures

Taiwanese Artisans Visit Indy

May 11-12

Folk artisans came to Indy to celebrate the annual Taiwanese American Heritage Week and to promote friendship between our countries.

The artisans demonstrated their crafts at the Indianapolis City Market, the Children's Museum and the Indiana State Museum. They shared various folk crafts including Dragon's Beard Candy, Sugar Painting, Dough Figurines, Hakka Paper Umbrella and Painted Tops.

Mayor Ballard was particularly excited with the dough figurine made in his likeness!



Italians Dine in Style!

April 25

A group of 60 people packed the house at Ambrosia for an elegant evening and fundraiser.

Dinner was a terrific five-course meal typical of Lombardia, the region of Monza. Guests also enjoyed five different Lombardia wines.



Enjoy Indian Cuisine and Conversation

2nd Wednesday of each month

On the 2nd Wednesday of each month, the Hyderabad Sister City Committee hosts Desi Happy Hour at Delhi Palace, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. "Desi" is a term which refers to the people, cultures, and products of the Indian subcontinent.



Enhancing Indy's Cultural Landscape

Showcasing Our Sister City Cultures



India Day

August 11

The 3rd annual India Day included a parade, dance and music performances, Indian cuisine and merchants. New in 2012 were Cricket Overs and a fashion show. India Day is a joint collaboration with the Hyderabad Sister City Committee, the India Association of Indiana and the Mayor's Office of International & Cultural Affairs.



Chinese Festival

September 8

The Hangzhou Sister City Committee participated in the 6th annual Chinese Festival. Two librarians visiting from Hangzhou arrived the previous evening. Albeit a bit jet lagged, they enjoyed the many aspects of the festival – feeling like they never left home!



Potica Anyone?

November 20

Stephanie Leslie, of the Piran, Slovenia Sister City Committee and her aunt prepare Potica (poh-TEET-sah) for a committee gathering. Potica a yeast-raised dough rolled around a variety of fillings, is a popular dessert among Slovenians. Its name derives from the Slovenian word poviti, which means "to wrap in." Every family has its favorite recipe but a walnut potica is typically the most popular.

Enhancing Indy's Cultural Landscape

Sister Cities around Town

IUPUI's International Festival

February 21

We are committed to advancing international education both at the K-12 level and in our local universities. Participating in IUPUI's International Festival is one facet of our partnership with the university.

"We are delighted that the Office of International and Cultural Affairs is represented each year at IUPUI's International Festival, a signature event at the campus that draws students, faculty, staff, and the local community," stated Gil Latz, Associate Vice Chancellor for International Affairs, IUPUI.



IUPUI

Reaching "Gen Y" at GetIndyInvolved

August 1

IndyHub's 7th annual Get IndyInvolved showcased dozens of Indianapolis organizations. Get IndyInvolved is geared toward 20- and 30- somethings looking to connect with others in the city.

"We were pleased to administer the Citizen Diplomat oath to many individuals," said Jane Gehlhausen.

CITIZEN DIPLOMAT OATH: I (NAME) have the opportunity and responsibility to improve relations between the United States and the rest of the world. I am a Citizen Diplomat appointed by Mayor Ballard's Office of International & Cultural Affairs and the Indianapolis Sister Cities program. I am committed to do this, for my city, my country and my world.



**Get
IndyInvolved**
powered by *indyhub.org*

Participating in Indy's Largest International Festival

November 16-18

Educating Indy residents about our Sister Cities is one of our key goals. Festival goers had fun playing trivia on why Indy is a Global City, testing their skills spelling the names of our Sister Cities, and taking the oath to become a Citizen Diplomat.

The Indy International Festival is Central Indiana's largest and oldest pan-ethnic celebration. Hosted by the Nationalities Council of Indiana, this annual festival showcases and celebrates Indiana's ethnic diversity.



Mayor and volunteers
at the festival



Community Partner of the Year



Book Exchange, Exhibition, and Chinese Performance

“ We are proud to feature The Indianapolis Public Library as our Community Partner of the Year. 2012 was a busy year collaborating with the library on many initiatives. ”

— Jane Gehlhausen, Director International & Cultural Affairs

We participated in several initiatives with the Indianapolis Public Library this year, including a book exchange with Hangzhou, international exhibitions at the Central Library, and librarian exchanges with Hangzhou and Cologne.

The Indianapolis Central Library and the Hangzhou Sister City Committee hosted a celebration May 9th featuring Chinese cultural performances.

The exhibition ran through July 28th and showcased Reflections of West Lake: Hangzhou Book Exhibition. The exhibit included the performing arts, calligraphy, painting, literature, musical instruments, crafts and city development. Chinese and bilingual books are now available for checkout at the Indianapolis Public Library.



Reflections of West Lake:
Hangzhou
Public Library
Book Exhibition

Central Library
40 E. St. Clair Street

Monday, May 7 — Saturday, July 28

Explore **HANGZHOU, CHINA** at your local Library featuring artwork and books highlighting the:

- Performing arts
- Music & Instruments
- Calligraphy & Painting
- Literature
- City development
- Arts & crafts

Books on display have been donated to The Indianapolis Public Library by the Hangzhou Public Library in China.

Check one out at your local Library!

FREE and open to everyone.

The Indianapolis Public Library **INTERNATIONAL & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Community Partner of the Year

Librarian Exchange

Organized by the Hangzhou and Cologne Sister City Committees and the Indianapolis and Hangzhou and Cologne public libraries, this exchange showcased and strengthened the Sister City partnership and exchanged information about foreign and American library practices.

“ This offers an opportunity to become imbedded in a different culture and understand what libraries mean to others, obtain real insights into other approaches to organizing, funding and providing services, and to deepen our appreciation for diversity. ”

— Jackie Nytes, Indianapolis Public Library CEO



1. Hangzhou librarians Yu Lin Zhou and Liang Liang visit Infozone at Central Library.

2. Jackie Nytes, Library CEO (left) and the Cologne Sister City Committee gave a warm send off to Nicole James as she departs for a three-week exchange at the Cologne Public Library.

3. Indianapolis librarians Ann Ricciardelli and Sailan Liang were selected for the exchange to Hangzhou.

4. Ann Ricciardelli makes a presentation on the “Spirit of Indianapolis” to Hangzhou librarians.



Journey through Eastern Europe

September-December

Visitors had the opportunity to learn about our Sister City Piran, Slovenia during the exhibition on Journey through Eastern Europe.



Educating Our Youth and Leaders



Teacher Resource Packets

Download at: www.indygov/globalindy

The Sister Cities Education Committee was launched in January with eight members representing elementary through secondary level educators from Marion County. The two main goals are dissemination of information about the Indianapolis Sister Cities International program and guidance of the development of Teacher Resource Packets representing each of the eight Sister Cities. In April, more than 30 educators were introduced to the Sister Cities program and our plans for compiling resources for teachers.

Throughout the summer, the Education Committee members provided advice and feedback for the development of the Teacher Resource Packets. These are available online for downloading, in editable format. Teachers have used these lessons in their classrooms and also in presentations at school clubs.

Currently, we are working to develop electronic connections between schools in Marion County and in Piran, Slovenia, and Campinas, Brazil.



Youth Ambassadors Visit from Taiwan

July 13

Six young ambassadors selected by the government of Taiwan toured several cities in the United States, including Indianapolis. The students are all studying law with the goal of becoming future diplomats.



Taiwanese Students Visit Indy Schools

October 25-November 18

Fourteen students from the Kai Syuan Elementary School, Yi-Lan, Taiwan visited Indianapolis for an educational exchange with the Merle Sidener Gifted Academy (IPS School 359).

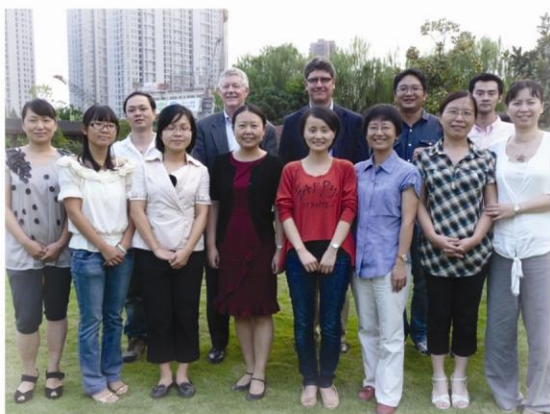
E₁D₂U₁C₃A₁T₁E

Educating Our Youth and Leaders



New Technology Tools Allow IUPUI and Slovenian Students to Come Together Fall

New technological tools allowed students at IUPUI and the University of Primorska to participate in a unique learning opportunity. The eight-week virtual class is an integrator course for majors in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI. The advanced course, which focuses on the development and promotion of tourism in an urban setting, addresses the integration of knowledge across disciplines. "It's like taking a study abroad class without having to go abroad to study," said Sotiris Hji-Avgoustis, a professor at IUPUI coordinating the partnership.



Chinese Principals Visit Indianapolis High Schools May 17

The Mayor's Office was honored to host nineteen principals from the Zhejiang Province in China. The delegation is part of a program to evaluate Chinese high school curricula on an international basis. The delegation studied U.S. education practices in the following areas:

1. Secondary and high school curriculum
2. Student evaluation standards
3. Teacher evaluation and career development
4. Counseling assistance

The delegation visits included North Central and Perry Meridian High Schools. The Indy-Hangzhou Sister City Committee assisted as a local resource.

◀ Visit to Zhejiang Chinese Medicine University September

The Pharmacy and Health Science Department of Butler University led a delegation of 13 students to Hangzhou, Zhejiang for a three-week course on traditional Chinese medicine. The Indy Hangzhou Sister City Committee provided cultural orientation to the students in preparation of their trip.

E₁D₂U₁C₃A₁T₁E

Educating Our Youth and Leaders



Perry Township School District Establishes 5-year Education Partnership with Hangzhou Schools

November

Andrea Korrack, principal of Clinton Young Elementary School and Kim Campbell, principal of the Southport 6th Grade Academy, represented Perry Township School District to sign a Memo Of Understanding to establish a collaboration with Xiacheng District Schools of Hangzhou.

While in Hangzhou, they both attended the Asia-Pacific International Conference on Education Innovation and visited Xiacheng District Education Bureau, Changjiang Experimental Elementary School and Zhaohui Middle School.

"Although our district offers foreign language instruction, it cannot create the understanding of culture like a cultural exchange experience. We look forward to the collaboration with Xiacheng," said Dr. Thomas J. Little, Jr, Superintendent, Perry Township Schools.



(SISTER CITY PROJECT)

LOCAL STUDENTS LINK WITH BRAZILIANS

LILLY ENDOWMENT PAVES WAY FOR EDUCATIONAL MISSION

By Angela Small
Star correspondent

Last summer, with the help of the Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Grant, Laura Glassmeyer was a very busy woman — and she got to travel the world to another continent, too.

A guidance counselor for Wayne Township schools, Glassmeyer saw an increasing need for students to be able to comfortably exchange information with others abroad — especially among students from the U.S., China, India, Brazil and Russia, who she says have been noted as "five countries whose economy and culture will shape the future of the world."

Out of this thought came the Indianapolis/Campinas — Brazil Sister City Project: Educational Mission.

In her mission statement, Glassmeyer noted, "In 2009, a Sister City partnership was established between (Campinas and Indianapolis). A goal...



Laura Glassmeyer went to Brazil last summer.



Establishing Educational Links with Brazil

Summer

Laura Glassmeyer, a school psychologist from Wayne Township schools received a Teacher Creativity Grant from Lilly Endowment to support her idea for an educational mission with Campinas, Brazil. Laura's project will provide opportunities for cross-cultural exchanges between public school students and teachers through a digital pen pal program. The program will start with five schools participating in each city. "I would like to see the numbers of schools participating to increase over time, as well as move beyond the digital realm," said Glassmeyer.

◀ Vocational Exchange: Firefighter from Cologne

September

"My involvement with the Cologne Sister City partnership and the opportunity to meet and work with firefighters from Germany has enriched my fire service career immensely," said Mike Mullennax, Firefighter, Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD). Mike (2nd from left) participated in a three-week vocational exchange to Cologne in October of 2010. This past year, IFD hosted Mathias Kirmse (center), a fire fighter from Cologne.



Diplomatic Visits Strengthen Partnerships

Indian Ambassador Rao visit Indy

April 12

The Indianapolis-Hyderabad Sister City Committee (IHSCC) hosted a dinner reception to honor Indian Ambassador to the United States, Ms. Nirupama Rao. Many dignitaries, including federal, state and local elected officials attended. Ambassador Rao's speech addressed many social and economic topics.



350 guests attended the dinner



Ambassador Rao (second from right) with Consul General Mukta Tomar, Mayor Ballard and Raju Chinthala, President of IHSCC.



Hangzhou Deputy Director Xie Visits Indy

June 26

Hangzhou Foreign Affairs Deputy Director Chongming Xie lead a delegation to Indianapolis. They toured the Children's Museum to learn more about the upcoming *Take Me There: China* exhibition, and they also visited the Central Library to see the *Visions of West Lake* exhibition. Here they met with Deputy Mayor Olgen Williams in the Mayor's Office.



Sister City Mayor's Conference in Hangzhou

October 10-14

Director Gehlhausen attended the Mayor's Conference in Hangzhou, China. The theme of the conference was "City and Leisure." 28 of Hangzhou's Sister Cities from across the world attended the conference. Ms. Gehlhausen took great pleasure in highlighting the many qualities of the City of Indianapolis.



Mayor Ballard Leads Trade and Investment Trips to England and Germany

June



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY, UK

Mayor Ballard lead several delegations to our sister cities promoting Indianapolis to enhance business cooperation. These are some of the highlights.



Delegation Tours Cosworth Headquarters

Cosworth, with offices in Indianapolis, is a global technology business that delivers high performance solutions for customers in aerospace, defense, automotive and sport. Here a representative from Cosworth provides a tour of their headquarters in Northamptonshire. Also pictured: Mayor Ballard and Sue Smith of Ivy Tech.



Motorsports & Cricket

Tim Bagshaw of Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership hosted a networking event with motorsports professionals. Here Tim, with Lord Mayor Roger Conroy of Northampton, David Smith, Northamptonshire County Cricket Club, and Chris Aylett, Motorsport Industry Association, welcome Mayor Ballard to the Northamptonshire County Cricket Club.



Development in Motorsports Technology

Jon Hilton, Managing Director of Flybird Systems, explains advanced flywheel technology to Mayor Ballard. Flybird Systems is based at the Silverstone Innovation Center in Northamptonshire



COLOGNE (KÖLN), GERMANY



Mayor Ballard Signs Köln Guestbook

All distinguished visitors to Cologne or Köln (as it is spelled in Germany), sign the city's guest book. Here Mayor Ballard signs the book in the presence of First Lady Winnie Ballard and Lord Mayor Jürgen Roters at the historic City Hall.



Business Networking

Cologne Deputy Mayor Angela Spitzig gives remarks at a business networking event sponsored by Cologne's Department of Economic Development and the Chamber of Commerce.



A Visit to Magnet-Physik

Magnet-Physics Inc. provides North American sales and technical service for its parent company in Cologne, Germany, a worldwide supplier of high-quality magnetizing and magnetic test equipment since 1976.



Mayor Ballard Leads Trade and Investment Trips to China and Taiwan

August



HANGZHOU, CHINA

"The trip gave us insights into the Chinese business world that we could not have fully understood without actually going there. Especially rewarding was visiting our client (Nanshan) at their headquarters."

— Brian Sullivan & Mike Dilts, Shiel Sexton Company



RATIO Expands in China

In late 2012, Indianapolis-based RATIO Architects signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Zhejiang University Design Institute in Hangzhou.

"In a globally interconnected economy, architecture firms need to think outside perceived geographical constraints and look for partners that embrace our mission to create outstanding living, working and learning spaces," said Tony Steinhardt, RATIO Principal.



Marian University partners with Zhejiang University

"At Marian University, we are preparing our students to succeed in a global economy. Our visiting Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Shunji Cui, from Zhejiang University is helping us to further develop partnerships in China," said Daniel J. Elsener, Marian University President.

A Marian University representative was part of the delegation and visited several schools to recruit future international students.

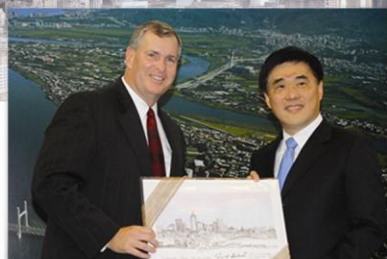


Indy is an Ideal Place for Foreign Investors

"With a friendly environment, municipal government support, people resources, and low cost, we found Indy as one of the best places in USA for foreign investors," said Charlie Cai, CEO, Westfield Outdoor Inc. Westfield Outdoor is the U.S. headquarters of Zhejiang Topsun Group (ZTG). ZTG, located in Hangzhou, is a manufacturer specializing in outdoor furniture, camping and hunting accessories.



TAIPEI, TAIWAN



Mayors Share Greetings

Mayor Ballard presents a gift to Hau Lung-bin, Mayor of Taipei. During the delegation's visit with the Mayor, topics of discussion included bike lanes, recycling, and public transportation. Taipei, Indy's first Sister City, will celebrate its 35th anniversary as a sister city in 2013.



Business Networking

Pictured here with Commercial Section Chief Helen Hwang, Mayor Ballard presents at a business networking event sponsored by the American Institute in Taiwan. As of 2007, the per capita GDP of Taipei is \$48,400 — the second highest in Asia behind Tokyo.

Indianapolis Museum of Art
Images courtesy of IMA



Taipei 101

Finding Indiana's Love in Taipei

Internationally renowned artist Robert Indiana's most iconic sculptures *Love* and *Numbers* locally seen at the grounds of the Indianapolis Museum of Art are also on display in Taipei at the Taipei 101.

© 2013 Morgan Art Foundation / Artists Rights Society (ARS) New York

Sister Cities Conference

October 27



Excellence in **Programming**

1st place: Taipei
2nd place: Hangzhou
3rd place: Cologne



Excellence in **Operations**

1st place: Hangzhou
2nd place: Monza



Excellence in **Service**

Raju Chinthala	Aaron Goetz
Hong Hu	Ernie Wu
Lijun Zheng	Wei Zhou

The Mayor's Office of International & Cultural Affairs hosted the 2012 Sister Cities Conference at Formosa Chinese restaurant. During the conference discussion focused on Mayor Ballard's international strategy, updates from Sister Cities International, and a three-year strategy for the Indianapolis Sister Cities program.

Individual Sister City committees gave presentations during the conference, highlighting their best practices and programs.

Mayor Ballard recognized committees and individuals in three categories, Excellence in Operations, Excellence in Programming and Excellence in Service.

Excellence in Programming
1st Place: Taipei, Taiwan

Excellence in Service:
Hong Hu

Excellence in Operations
1st Place: Hangzhou, China

Great Discussion
and Fellowship



Thank You, Danke, Grazie, Xie Xie, Obrigado, Hvala, Shukriyaa to Our Sponsors and Partners

The Indianapolis Sister Cities International (ISCI) program is a non-profit initiative directed by Mayor Ballard's Office of International and Cultural Affairs. ISCI depends on the generosity of corporations and organizations to provide in-kind and/or financial support. Interested in supporting ISCI? Contact us at global@indy.gov.

Sister Cities Fest Sponsors & In-Kind Partners

Title Sponsors



Zone / Ambassador / Consul Sponsors:



Diplomat Sponsors: America China Society of Indiana | Sun King Brewery | International School of Indiana | White House Group | Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago | Indiana University Purdue University-Indianapolis | The International Center and The Indianapolis Foundation | NUVO | FedEx | Friends of Sister Cities | Moeller Printing

Delegate Sponsors: RATIO | Confucius Institute | Skyline Motel | Asian American Today | Yelp | ICCCI | WYNDHAM Indianapolis West

Additional Local Community Partners

Ambrosia Restaurant | Arts of Living | Asian Services of Indiana | Athenaeum Foundation | Butler University | Dallara/Indy Racing Experience | Delhi Palace | O'Brien FIAT | Global Indiana | Greater Indianapolis Telugu Association | India Association of Indianapolis | India Palace | Indiana German Heritage Society | Indiana Malayalee Association | Indiana State Museum | Indianapolis Children's Museum | Indianapolis City Market | Indianapolis Fire Department Local 416 | Indianapolis Public Library | Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra | Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library | Indy Legends Cricket Club | International Market Place-Lafayette Square Collation | Italian Heritage Society | Kannada Association of Indianapolis | Lilly Foundation | Lutheran Child and Family Services | Magnet-Physics | Marion County Schools | Merle Sidener Gifted Academy (IPS School 359) | Metropolitan School District-Perry Township | Robey Elementary School-Wayne Township | SEVA Health Services | Sikh Satsang of Indianapolis | Taiwanese Association of Indianapolis | Tamil Sangam of Central Indiana | The Bengali Association of Greater Indianapolis | University of Indianapolis

Special thanks to the International Center, the city's administrative support partner to the Indianapolis Sister Cities International program.



Indianapolis Sister Cities International

I am a Citizen Diplomat, are you?

Citizen diplomacy is the concept that the individual has the right, even the responsibility, to help shape U.S. foreign relations "one handshake at a time." Citizen diplomats can be students, teachers, athletes, artists, business people, humanitarians, adventurers or tourists. They are motivated by a responsibility to engage with the rest of the world in a meaningful, mutually beneficial dialogue.

The international exchange organizations People to People International and Sister Cities International were established as a result of a historic gathering when President Dwight Eisenhower convened the White House Summit on Citizen Diplomacy on September 11th, 1956.

Mission

The Indianapolis Sister Cities International program (ISCI) is committed to promoting Indianapolis as a global city. ISCI raises international awareness and understanding through cultural, educational, civic, and business engagement and exchange with our international partner cities by empowering private citizens, municipal officials, as well as leaders in the community, business and academia to serve as citizen diplomats and global advocates.

Vision

In today's global economy, the Sister City program is a key means of promoting Indianapolis as a global city, advancing cultural understanding, developing global connections, strengthening international partnerships and supporting business development.

Values

Respect for all people, all beliefs and all cultures; inclusive for all to participate; collaborative with like-minded organizations; volunteer in a team approach, with professionalism, integrity, and a focus to benefit our community; provide rewarding opportunities for our volunteers



Indianapolis *Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor*

**INTERNATIONAL
& CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

